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**State Government & Tribal Affairs  
Committee**

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**HJM 4001**

**Brief Description:** Requesting the state and the legislative authorities of each county to promote the recognition and celebration of older adults.

**Sponsors:** Representatives O'Brien, McCoy, Roberts, Darneille, Dickerson, Morrell, Liias, Appleton, Simpson and Moeller.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Requests the state and legislative authority of each county to promote recognition and celebration of older adults.

**Hearing Date:** 1/22/09

**Staff:** Marsha Reilly (786-7135)

**Background:**

Washington's population of people aged 65 and older is growing. The 1990 census reported that age group to number 571,403 and by the 2000 census, the number increased to 662,148. The intercensal study estimated that in 2008, Washington's population aged 65 and over numbered 780,524, or 11.85 percent of the state's population. The number of older adults is expected to reach 818,437 by 2010, 1.23 million by 2020, and over 1.66 million by 2030.

**Summary of Bill:**

The executive branch of the state and the legislative authorities of each county are urged to support a comprehensive, statewide effort that will engage the public and private sectors to:

- celebrate older age, recognize the value of older adults, and adequately respect their contributions to society;
- encourage people of all ages to prepare for retirement and old age;

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

- develop "age-sensitive" service infrastructures that support people as they age;
- establish and adopt existing services to recognize and accommodate the needs of older adults;
- build and adapt physical infrastructures that encourage active, healthy aging and support people as they age;
- promote creative ways for the state's aging population to utilize their talents, skills, and experience in both paid and unpaid roles;
- promote flexibility in the workplace to accommodate and support the vital role played by family caregivers; and
- promote the health and well-being of older adults.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.